



NEWS RELEASE

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JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF
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Commission On Judicial Appointments To Consider Appointments to Court of Appeal

L.A. Hearings Set for Second Appellate District

San Francisco—Public meetings have been scheduled by the Commission on Judicial Appointments on Monday, April 4, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., in the California Supreme Court Courtroom, Ronald Reagan State Office Building, 300 South Spring Street, Third Floor, Los Angeles, to consider three appointments by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to the Court of Appeal for the Second Appellate District. The appointments are as follows:

- Judge Thomas L. Willhite, of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, to the office of Associate Justice of Division Four. He will fill the vacancy created by the elevation of Associate Justice Norman L. Epstein as Presiding Justice of Division Four.
- Judge Sandy R. Kriegler, of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, to the office of Associate Justice of Division Five. He will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Associate Justice Margaret M. Grignon.
- Judge Frances Rothschild, of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, to the office of Associate Justice of Division One. She will fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Associate Justice Reuben A. Ortega.

The confirmation hearing for Judge Willhite will begin at 2:00 p.m. The hearings for Judges Kriegler and Rothschild will immediately follow.

The state Constitution specifies that a gubernatorial appointment to the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal is “effective when confirmed by the Commission on Judicial Appointments.”

The members of the commission who will consider the appointments to the Second Appellate District are Chief Justice Ronald M. George, Chairperson; Attorney General Bill Lockyer; and Presiding Justice Joan Dempsey Klein, senior presiding justice of the Second Appellate District.

All communications to the commission by persons who wish to comment on the appointments should be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28. The commission's address is:

Commission on Judicial Appointments
c/o Chief Justice of California
Supreme Court of California
350 McAllister Street
San Francisco, California 94102
Attention: Ms. Gale Tunnell, Secretary to the Commission

Anyone wishing to testify before the commission must state that request in writing and include a summary of the facts on which any testimony or opinion will be based. A request to be included on the speakers' list must be received by the commission by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 28.

Commission guidelines are published as an appendix to the California Rules of Courts and are available on the California Courts Web site at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/rules/appendix/appdiv4.pdf>. The guidelines also are available by calling the Public Information Officer of the Judicial Council at 415-865-7740.

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